

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18: (canceled).

19 (New): A joining structure that is reinforced by welding a columnar structural member to a base plate or a coupling flange via reinforcing ribs, characterized in that: said reinforcing ribs are tabular members gradually bent into a shape of U along the surface of said columnar structural member; and said gradually bent portions having the shape of U protrude from the surface of said columnar structural member in a manner in which said gradually bent portions are located at an end of said reinforcing ribs opposite to said base plate or coupling flange, wherein said reinforcing ribs are welded to both said columnar structural member and to said base plate or coupling flange.

20 (New): A joining structure that is reinforced by welding a columnar structural member to a base plate or a coupling flange via reinforcing ribs, characterized in that: said reinforcing ribs are tabular members gradually bent into a shape of V along the surface of said columnar structural member; and said gradually bent portions having the shape of V protrude from the surface of said columnar structural member in a manner in which said gradually bent portions are located at an end of said reinforcing ribs opposite to said base plate or coupling flange, wherein said reinforcing ribs are welded to both

said columnar structural member and to said base plate or coupling flange.

21 (New): A joining structure that is reinforced by welding a structural member to a base plate or a coupling flange via reinforcing ribs, characterized in that: said reinforcing ribs are tabular members gradually bent into a shape of U along the surface of said structural member; and said gradually bent portions having the shape of U protrude from the surface of said structural member in a manner in which said gradually bent portions are located at an end of said reinforcing ribs opposite to said base plate or coupling flange, wherein said reinforcing ribs are welded to both said structural member and to said base plate or coupling flange.

22 (New): A joining structure that is reinforced by welding a structural member to a base plate or a coupling flange via reinforcing ribs, characterized in that: said reinforcing ribs are tabular members gradually bent into a shape of V along the surface of said structural member; and said gradually bent portions having the shape of V protrude from the surface of said structural member in a manner in which said gradually bent portions are located at an end of said reinforcing ribs opposite to said base plate or coupling flange, wherein said reinforcing ribs are welded to both said structural member and to said base plate or coupling flange.